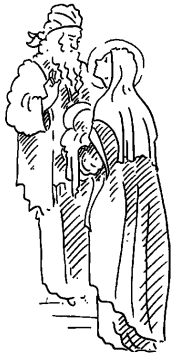


GOSPEL REFLECTION FOR THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD



Clarity

If you were told you were going to die tomorrow, would you be ready to go? Young and old alike, the answer to this question is probably “No!” Being ready to leave this world demands tremendous clarity, and whilst some of us have achieved clarity in our lives, the rest stumble around confused and overly burdened. We go through the motions of living but all too easily we are living out a ‘ground-hog-day’ existence... running on the spot and repeating the same old mistakes. What we need is someone to tell us where we are going wrong, and gently put us on the right track. In short, what we need is someone to light our way.

In today’s gospel reading, Mary and Joseph present the Baby Jesus at the temple as Jewish law required. Here they meet the elderly Simeon and Anna. Simeon and Anna have been waiting for the promise written in scripture that a Saviour would come to light the world and bring salvation to the ends of the earth. Despite their great age, Simeon and Anna were living and praying in hope that they would see the fulfilment of God’s promise. When Simeon sees the Baby Jesus and recognises him as the Messiah, he is ready to die in peace because the fulfilment of scripture was his own personal fulfilment too.

So what are we waiting for in our lives today? Are we able to recognise Jesus and the opportunities he gives us as Simeon did, or are we too busy running round like headless chickens looking for happiness and re-assurances in all the wrong places? How are we waiting? Are we waiting like the proverbial rabbit mesmerised by the fast-approaching headlights, or are we waiting in constant preparation?

The time has come to stop flitting from one ambition to another and from one hollow goal to the next. The time has come to look for a genuinely important goal of God’s floodlit making.

Bitesize - ‘We are each gifted in a unique and important way. It is our privilege and our adventure to discover our own special light.’ ~*Evelyn Dunbar*



PARISH PRAYER – Father, pour out your Spirit upon our parish. Grant us a new vision of your glory, a new faithfulness to your Word and a new consecration to your service, that your love might grow among us and your kingdom come, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

Permanent Deacon: Rev. Martin Sanderson

Parish Music team: Judy Reid, Kathleen Edmunds & William Preddy.

Parish Safeguarding Representatives: Paul McIntee & Kate Meehan

Sacred Heart & St Margaret Mary



Parish Priest: Fr Jay T. Magpuyo
35 London Road, Dereham, Norfolk, NR191AS

Tel: 01362 694066. Email:

edsacredheart@gmail.com

Registered Charity No. 278742

www.sacredheartdereham.org.uk



SacredHeartDereham.org.uk

Sunday 2nd February 2025 – The Presentation of the Lord [Candlemas Day]

[Sundays Year C, 4th Week of the Year, Weekdays Year I, Psalter Week 4]

MASSES in the PARISH

Saturday 1st February	
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>
	E. Maguire+ (Fdn)
Sunday 2nd February	The Presentation of the Lord
09.00	MASS
	For the People of the Parish
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>
	Anisha Cyriac+ (CC)
Monday 3rd February	Feria
-	No Mass today
Tuesday 4th February	Feria
10.00	MASS
	For Hannah Jossy (Birthday Int.) (CC)
Wednesday 5th February	St Agatha
10.00	MASS
	Anisha Cyriac+ (CC)
Thursday 6th February	St Paul Miki & Comps.
10.00	MASS & ADORATION
	C. Coyne+ (Fdn)
Friday 7th February	Feria
-	No Mass today
Saturday 8th February	Feria
18.00	<i>First MASS of Sunday</i>
Sunday 9th February	5th Sunday in Ordinary Time
09.00	MASS
11.00	MASS <i>Live streamed</i>
	For the People of the Parish

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Thursday after 10.00 Mass and Saturday at 17.30

Rosary & Morning Prayer are said weekdays before Mass from 09:15.

For Live Streamed Masses Search for Dereham Catholic Church on YouTube, or use the link on the parish website.

The parish newsletter is available on the parish website from Friday each week.

Anniversaries this week: Alfred Edward Macdonald, English Family, George Maguire, Benjamin Wyand, Stanley Snellgrove, George Gay, Mary Hirst, Joao Costa, Bernard O'Shea, Doris Marie (Babs) Dyer, Lynes Smith, Marian Longhorn, George Howell, Brenda Secker, Joan Rooney. *May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace.*

Hospital Visits: If you or any member of your family is admitted to the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital and would like to have a visit from a Catholic Priest, please inform a nurse on the ward and contact will be made through the Chaplaincy. If you are admitted to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in King's Lynn, please contact Fr. Peter Rollings at the Presbytery on 01553 772220. If you would like to receive the Sacrament of the Sick before going into hospital, please contact Fr. Jay either by phone or by email.

Sick & Housebound [with GDPR Permissions] – Please pray for: Shirley Liebenhals, Derek Williams, Patsy Gray, Colette Barrow-Nessian, Betty Reavey, William Dunne, Pauline Buckland, Greta Cummings, Katherine Vella, Pauline Organ, Joy Bussey, Pat Grout, George Mealy, Peggy Mealy.

Money Matters: Offering for last Sunday: Plate £271.55. Thank you.

Day of Prayer for Victims of Trafficking | Saturday, 8th February 2025

Church Decoration | 5th - 19th February - Please be advised that the interior of the Church will be undergoing a full painting project starting on Wednesday, February 5th and hopefully finishes in 2 weeks.

Important Notes:

- **Scaffolding:** Scaffolding will be present within the church during this time. Please exercise caution when moving around the building.
- **Weekday Masses:** Weekday Masses will be held in the Presbytery during the decoration period but weekend Masses will remain unaffected.

Thank you for your patience.

130 Club Renewals for 2025/6 - Would members please collect their renewal envelopes from the church letter rack. More tickets are available and if anyone would like to take up one or more of these, please either contact Marcia on marciaslee@hotmail.com or on 07786914478. Members are kindly asked to ensure that their renewals are returned as quickly as possible and **by NO LATER than Sunday 30th March.** **IMPORTANT NOTE:** *Please ensure that cheques are made payable to the 'Sacred Heart and St Margaret Mary Catholic Church' and NOT 'Dereham Catholic Church.'* Thank you.

130 Club Draw for January 2025 - 1st Prize £20 – Ticket No. 56, Anne Sibley; 2nd Prize £15 – Ticket No. 76, Kate Meehan; 3rd Prize £10 – Ticket No. 36, Roland Terry; 4th Prize £10 – Ticket No. 17. Myrna Kemp.

Diary for the week 2nd – 8th February

Sunday: 1100 Mass	Children's Liturgy – for children in Yr1 to 1 st Holy Communion age.
Monday: 1900-2030	AA Group Meeting - Emmaus Room
Wednesday: 1430	Queen of Peace Prayer Group – Emmaus Room (or Presbytery). All welcome.
Thursday: 1730-1830	First Communion Class - Presbytery
Friday: 1915-2030	Altar Servers - Presbytery
Parish Garden Club – To volunteer, please contact Sonia on 07985 521578.	



Tea Buddies – Our monthly parish tea afternoon on Monday, 10th February has been cancelled to make way for the church decorating. However, **Our Lady of Pity Church at Swaffham** (31 Station Street, PE37 7HP) has invited the parish to their **Monthly Community Coffee Morning on Thursday, 13th February from 1030-1230 in their Parish Rooms.** Coffee/tea £1, homemade cake £1.50. There will also be a raffle.

Film Showing: 'Conclave' | 19th February at 1830 in the Emmaus Room

Ash Wednesday Masses: - This year's Ash Wednesday will be on **5th March. Masses will be at 1000 and 1900.** Fasting and abstinence on Ash Wednesday are required for Catholics aged 14 to 59, unless health or other serious reasons prevent it.

Day of Renewal | St Laurence's Catholic Church - How are you preparing for Lent? Come to "Don't forget the Holy Spirit", a day of renewal at St Laurence's Church, Milton Road, Cambridge. **1st March 2025 10:00 – 16:00** with Guest speakers Fr Matt Anscombe & Caroline Sadd. The day includes Mass (10:30), praise & worship, inspiring talks, real-life accounts of transformation, reconciliation, exposition & prayer ministry. Please bring a packed lunch. Tea and Coffee will be available. For more info email: renewaleastanglia@gmail.com or phone Pam Smith: 07869652115.

The Search for Truth: Edith Stein, 14 – 16 March 2025 – A weekend study offered by Fr Matthew Blake, OCD For more information and to book: <https://christianheritagecentre.com/events/the-search-for-truth-edith-stein/>

Flame 2025 - Inviting all young people in Year 9 and above to 'Flame' at **Wembley Arena**. The Diocesan Youth Service is taking a group to 'Flame' on **March 15th**. For details and to book a ticket and place on the coach, please see www.rcdea.org.uk/youth . **Bookings must be received by 9th February.**



We thank all our many parish volunteers and groups for their help each week in supporting the running and daily and spiritual life of the parish.